

In re Patent Application of:  
ISAKSSON ET AL.  
Serial No. 09/147,750  
Filed: MAY 28, 1999

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In the Claims:

Sub 17  
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Cont

1. (Original) A multi-carrier transmission system having a first and a second transceiver, each of said transceivers having a receiver and a transmitter, wherein data is transmitted between said transceivers by modulating said data onto a multiplicity of carrier waves in the form of multi-bit symbols, wherein each carrier wave constitutes a channel, and wherein the number of bits per symbol, (the bit loading), varies between channels and, within a channel, with time, so that each channel has associated therewith a bit loading parameter, characterised in that, in operation, said multi-carrier system is adapted to synchronously update, at said first and second transceivers, the bit loading parameters associated with each channel by transmission of data over a control channel, in that said control channel is established, at system start-up, on a predetermined one of said multiplicity of carrier waves whose identity is known to said first and second transceivers, and in that said control channel is, after start-up, changed from said predetermined channel to a further channel, selected by said first transceiver on the basis of channel characteristics.

2. (Original) A multi-carrier transmission system, as claimed in claim 1, characterised in that decisions relating to changes in bit loading and control channel selection are initiated by said first transceiver transmitting command signals over said control channel, in that said second transceiver effects changes in bit loading and control channel

In re Patent Application of:  
ISAKSSON ET AL.  
Serial No. 09/147,750  
Filed: MAY 28, 1999

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carrier wave selection, and in that said second transceiver measures changes in channel characteristics and forwards data relating thereto over said control channel to said first transceiver.

3. (Previously amended) A multi-carrier transmission system, as claimed in claim 1, characterised in that said multi-carrier transmission system is a DMT transmission system.

B2  
cont

4. (Currently amended) A multi-carrier transmission system, as claimed in ~~either~~ claim 1, characterised in that said multicarrier transmission system is a DMT-based VDSL system.

5. (Currently amended) A multi-carrier transmission system, as claimed in ~~either~~ claim 1, characterised in that said multicarrier transmission system is a DMT-based ADSL system.

6. (Previously amended) A multi-carrier transmission system, as claimed in claim 3, characterised in that said predetermined carrier wave is selected from said multiplicity of carrier waves on the basis of channel SNR characteristics so that said control channel is subject to minimal interference from noise.

7. (Currently amended) A multi-carrier transmission system, as claimed in claim 1, characterised in that, on

In re Patent Application of:  
ISAKSSON ET AL.  
Serial No. 09/147,750  
Filed: MAY 28, 1999

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activation of said multi-carrier system, said control channel is established by ~~means of~~ a process comprising the following three steps:

~~establishment of~~ establishing said control channel on a predetermined carrier wave;

~~transfer of~~ transferring said control channel to a carrier wave selected by said multi-carrier system and enabling bit loading control; and

enabling of all carrier waves.

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Cont.  
8. (Original) A multi-carrier transmission system, as claimed in claim 7, characterised in that said step of establishing said control channel includes, in each of said first and second transceivers:

booting said transmitter;

said transmitter continuously transmitting frames in which all carrier waves other than said predetermined wave are modulated with random data;

said transmitter transmitting a system heartbeat;

booting said receiver;

said receiver initiating channel equalization; synchronizing clocks in said first and second transceivers; and

establishing said control channel on said predetermined carrier wave on receipt of a heartbeat.

In re Patent Application of:  
ISAKSSON ET AL.  
Serial No. 09/147,750  
Filed: MAY 28, 1999

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9. (Currently amended) A multi-carrier system, as claimed in claim 7 8, characterised in that said step of transferring said control channel includes, in said first transceiver:

~~reception of~~ receiving data, by the transmitter, relating to measured channel characteristics from receivers in both said first and second transceivers;

~~selection of~~ selecting a carrier wave to which said control channel is to be reallocated by said transmitter;

~~transmission~~ transmitting, by said transmitter, of a signal identifying said carrier wave, to which said control channel is to be reallocated, to said second transceiver;

on receipt of a confirmation signal, from said second transceiver, said transmitter terminating said control channel on said predetermined carrier wave;

said transmitter starting said control channel on the reallocated carrier wave at a heartbeat;

said receiver measuring channel characteristics and transmitting data relating thereto to said transmitter in said first transceiver;

said receiver equalizing said measured channel;

said receiver obtaining a channel estimation from the second transceiver and transmitting data relating thereto to said transmitter in said first transceiver;

said receiver receiving data identifying the carrier wave for reallocation of said control channel;

said receiver receiving a confirmation signal from said second transceiver;

said receiver terminating the control channel on

In re Patent Application of:  
ISAKSSON ET AL.  
Serial No. 09/147,750  
Filed: MAY 28, 1999

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said predetermined carrier wave;

said receiver establishing the control channel on  
the reallocated carrier wave; and

if said control channel cannot be established,  
returning to said step, ~~according to claim 8,~~ of establishing  
said control channel.

10. (Previously amended) A multi-carrier system as  
claimed in claim 7, characterised in that said step of  
enabling all carrier waves includes, on a continuous basis, in  
said first transceiver:

said transmitter obtaining data relating to measured  
channels from receivers in both said transceivers;

said transmitter determining the bit loading  
parameter for each carrier wave;

said transmitter transmitting data relating to  
the bit loading parameter to said second transceiver;

said transmitter changing the bit loading parameter  
on confirmation from said second transceiver;

the receiver measuring the channel  
characteristics of said multiplicity of channels and sending  
data relating to said measurements to said transmitter;

the receiver equalizing said multiplicity of  
channels in accordance with said measured channel  
characteristics;

the receiver obtaining a channel estimation  
from said second transceiver for each of said multiplicity of  
channels;

the receiver obtaining a new bit loading parameter

In re Patent Application of:  
ISAKSSON ET AL.  
Serial No. 09/147,750  
Filed: MAY 28, 1999

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for each of said multiplicity of channels;

the receiver obtaining a confirmation signal from  
said second transceiver;

the receiver updating the bit loading parameters for  
each of the multiplicity of channels.

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11. (Currently amended) A multi-carrier transmission system, as claimed in claim 1, characterised in that channel characteristics are estimated by periodic transmission, by one of said transceivers, of a base sync frame having a predetermined content and comparing, in the other of said transceivers, the received base sync frame with a reference frame.

12. (Original) A multi-carrier transmission system, as claimed in claim 11, characterised in that said channel characteristics include attenuation, phase shifting and variance.

13. (Currently amended) A multi-carrier transmission system, as claimed in claim 11, characterised in that said base sync frames are transmitted at base sync intervals, ~~the~~ (BSI), and said BSI is locked into said transceivers thereby enabling said transceivers to identify a frame as a sync frame.

14. (Original) A multi-carrier transmission system, as claimed in claim 13, characterised in that additional sync frames are transmitted at intervals between said base sync

In re Patent Application of:  
ISAKSSON ET AL.  
Serial No. 09/147,750  
Filed: MAY 28, 1999

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frames.

15. (Currently amended) A multi-carrier transmission system, as claimed in claim 13, characterised in that said first transceiver issues commands for system reconfiguration at the start of a the BSI, and in that system reconfiguration is effected at the start of the next BSI.

16. (Previously amended) A multi-carrier transmission system, as claimed in claim 13, characterised in that said BSI is greater than twice the system transit time for signals.

B2  
Cont

17. (Currently amended) In a multi-carrier transmission system having a first and a second transceiver, each of said transceivers having a receiver and a transmitter, wherein data is transmitted between said transceivers by modulating said data onto a multiplicity of carrier waves in the form of multi-bit symbols, wherein each of said carrier waves constitutes a channel, and wherein the number of bits per symbol, (the bit loading), varies between channels and, within a channel, with time, so that each channel has associated therewith a bit loading parameter, a method of operating a control channel characterised by:

synchronously updating, at said first and second transceivers, the bit loading parameters associated with each channel by transmission of data over the control channel;

establishing said control channel, at system start-up, on a predetermined one of said multiplicity of carrier

In re Patent Application  
 ISAKSSON ET AL.  
 Serial No. 09/147,711  
 Filed: MAY 28, 1999

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waves whose identity  
 transceivers; and

after station  
 said predetermined  
 said first transceiver  
~~such as SNR.~~

18. (Currently  
 claim 17, character-  
 initiating  
 loading and control  
 transceiver and trans-  
 channel;

~~said second~~  
 loading and control  
second transceiver;

in said second  
 channel characteris-  
 over said control ch-

19. (Previously  
 claim 17, character-  
 transmission system

20. (Currently  
~~either~~ claim 17, character-  
 transmission system

21. (Currently

is known to said first and second

set-up, changing said control channel from  
 channel to a further channel, selected by  
 over on the basis of channel characteristics.

currently amended) A method, as claimed in  
 ised by:

g decisions, relating to changes in bit  
 channel selection, in said first  
 transmitting command signals over said control

~~second transceiver~~ effecting changes in bit  
 channel carrier wave selection in said  
 and

second transceiver, measuring changes in  
 tics and forwarding data relating thereto  
 channel to said first transceiver.

iously amended) A method, as claimed in  
 ised in that said multi-carrier  
 is a DMT transmission system.

currently amended) A method, as claimed in  
 characterised in that said multi-carrier  
 is a DMT-based VDSL system.

currently amended) A method, as claimed in



In re Patent Application of:  
ISAKSSON ET AL.  
Serial No. 09/147,750  
Filed: MAY 28, 1999

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~~either~~ claim 17, characterised in that said multi-carrier transmission system is a DMT-based ADSL system.

22. (Previously amended) A method, as claimed in claim 19, characterised by selecting said predetermined carrier wave from said multiplicity of carrier waves on the basis of channel SNR characteristics so that said control channel is subject to minimal interference from noise.

B2  
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23. (Currently amended) A method, as claimed in claim 17, characterised by establishing said control channel, on activation of said multi-carrier system, by ~~means of~~ a process comprising the following three steps:

establishing said control channel on a predetermined carrier wave;

transferring said control channel to a carrier wave selected by said multi-carrier system and enabling bit loading control; and

enabling all carrier waves.

24. (Original) A method, as claimed in claim 23, characterised by said step of establishing said control channel including, in each of said first and second transceivers:

booting said transmitter;

said transmitter continuously transmitting frames in which all carrier waves other than said predetermined wave are modulated with random data;

said transmitter transmitting a system heartbeat;

In re Patent Application of:  
ISAKSSON ET AL.  
Serial No. 09/147,750  
Filed: MAY 28, 1999

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booting said receiver;

said receiver initiating channel equalization;  
synchronizing clocks in said first and second transceivers;  
and

establishing said control channel on said  
predetermined carrier wave on receipt of a heartbeat.

25. (Currently amended) A method, as claimed in  
claim 24 ~~23~~, characterised by said step of transferring said  
control channel including, in said first transceiver:

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~~reception of receiving~~ data, by the transmitter,  
relating to measured channel characteristics from receivers in  
both said first and second transceivers;

~~selection of selecting~~ a carrier wave to which said  
control channel is to be reallocated by said transmitter;

~~transmission transmitting~~, by said transmitter, of a  
signal identifying said carrier wave, to which said control  
channel is to be reallocated, to said second transceiver;

on receipt of a confirmation signal, from said  
second transceiver, said transmitter terminating said control  
channel on said predetermined carrier wave;

said transmitter starting said control channel on  
the reallocated carrier wave at a heartbeat;

said receiver measuring channel characteristics and  
transmitting data relating thereto to said transmitter in said  
first transceiver;

said receiver equalizing said measured channel;  
said receiver obtaining a channel estimation from the second  
transceiver and transmitting data relating thereto to said

In re Patent Application of:  
ISAKSSON ET AL.  
Serial No. 09/147,750  
Filed: MAY 28, 1999

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transmitter in said first transceiver;

said receiver receiving data identifying the carrier wave for reallocation of said control channel;

said receiver receiving a confirmation signal from said second transceiver;

said receiver terminating the control channel on said predetermined carrier wave;

said receiver establishing the control channel on the reallocated carrier wave; and

if said control channel cannot be established, returning to said step, ~~according to claim 25,~~ of establishing said control channel.

B2  
cont

26. (Currently amended) A method, as claimed in claim 23 7, characterised by said step of enabling all carrier waves including, on a continuous basis, in said first transceiver:

said transmitter obtaining data relating to measured channels from receivers in both said transceivers;

said transmitter determining the bit loading parameter for each carrier wave;

said transmitter transmitting data relating to the bit loading parameter to said second transceiver;

said transmitter changing the bit loading parameter on confirmation from said second transceiver;

the receiver measuring the channel characteristics of said multiplicity of channels and sending data relating to said measurements to said transmitter;

the receiver equalizing said multiplicity of

In re Patent Application of:  
ISAKSSON ET AL.  
Serial No. 09/147,750  
Filed: MAY 28, 1999

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channels in accordance with said measured channel characteristics;

the receiver obtaining a channel estimation from said second transceiver for each of said multiplicity of channels;

the receiver obtaining a new bit loading parameter for each of said multiplicity of channels;

the receiver obtaining a confirmation signal from said second transceiver;

the receiver updating the bit loading parameters for each of the multiplicity of channels.

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27. (Previously amended) A method, as claimed in claim 17, characterised by estimating channel characteristics by periodic transmission, by one of said transceivers, of a base sync frame having a predetermined content and comparing, in the other of said transceivers, the received sync frame with a reference frame.

28. (Original) A method, as claimed in claim 27, characterised by said channel characteristics including attenuation, phase shifting and variance.

29. (Currently amended) A method, as claimed in claim 27, characterised by transmitting said base sync frames at base sync intervals, ~~the~~ (BSI), and locking said BSI into said transceivers thereby enabling said transceivers to identify a frame as a sync frame.

In re Patent Application of:  
ISAKSSON ET AL.  
Serial No. 09/147,750  
Filed: MAY 28, 1999

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30. (Original) A method, as claimed in claim 29, characterised by transmitting additional sync frames at intervals between said base sync frames.

31. (Currently amended) A method, as claimed in claim 29, characterised by said first transceiver issuing commands for system reconfiguration at the start of a the BSI and effecting system reconfiguration at the start of the next BSI.

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Cont.  
32. (Previously amended) A method, as claimed in claim 29, characterised in that said BSI is greater than twice the system transit time for signals.

33-35. (Canceled).

36. (New) A multi-carrier transmission system comprising:

first and second transceivers each having a receiver and a transmitter, wherein data is transmitted between said transceivers by modulating the data onto a multiplicity of carrier waves in the form of multi-bit symbols, wherein each carrier wave defines a channel, and wherein the number of bits per symbol varies between channels and, within a channel, with time, so that each channel has associated therewith a bit loading parameter;

the first and second transceivers synchronously updating the bit loading parameters associated with each channel by transmission of data over a control channel,

In re Patent Application of:  
ISAKSSON ET AL.  
Serial No. 09/147,750  
Filed: MAY 28, 1999

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wherein the control channel is established, at system start-up, on a predetermined one of the multiplicity of carrier waves which is known to the first and second transceivers, and the control channel is, after start-up, changed from the predetermined channel to a further channel, selected by the first transceiver on the basis of channel characteristics.

B2  
cont

37. (New) A multi-carrier transmission system, as claimed in claim 36, wherein decisions relating to changes in bit loading and control channel selection are initiated by the first transceiver transmitting command signals over the control channel, wherein the second transceiver effects changes in bit loading and control channel carrier wave selection, and wherein the second transceiver measures changes in channel characteristics and forwards data relating thereto over the control channel to the first transceiver.

38. (New) A multi-carrier transmission system, as claimed in claim 36, wherein the multi-carrier transmission system is a DMT transmission system.

39. (New) A multi-carrier transmission system, as claimed in claim 36, wherein the multicarrier transmission system is a DMT-based VDSL system.

40. (New) A multi-carrier transmission system, as claimed in claim 36, wherein the multicarrier transmission system is a DMT-based ADSL system.

In re Patent Application of:  
ISAKSSON ET AL.  
Serial No. 09/147,750  
Filed: MAY 28, 1999

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41. (New) A method of operating a control channel in a multi-carrier transmission system having a plurality of transceivers, the method comprising:

transmitting data between the transceivers by modulating the data onto a multiplicity of carrier waves in the form of multi-bit symbols, each of the carrier waves defining a channel, and the number of bits per symbol varies between channels and, within a channel, with time, so that each channel has associated therewith a bit loading parameter;

synchronously updating, at the transceivers, the bit loading parameters associated with each channel by transmission of data over the control channel;

establishing the control channel, at system start-up, on a predetermined one of the multiplicity of carrier waves whose identity is known to the transceivers; and

after start-up, changing the control channel from the predetermined channel to a further channel, selected by one of the transceivers on the basis of channel characteristics.

42. (New) A method, as claimed in claim 41, further comprising:

initiating decisions, relating to changes in bit loading and control channel selection, in the one transceiver and transmitting command signals over the control channel;

effecting changes in bit loading and control channel carrier wave selection in another transceiver; and

in the another transceiver, measuring changes in channel characteristics and forwarding data relating thereto

In re Patent Application of:  
ISAKSSON ET AL.  
Serial No. 09/147,750  
Filed: MAY 28, 1999

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over the control channel to the one transceiver.

43. (New) A method, as claimed in claim 41, wherein the multi-carrier transmission system is a DMT transmission system.

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44. (New) A method, as claimed in claim 41, wherein the multi-carrier transmission system is a DMT-based VDSL system.

45. (New) A method, as claimed in claim 41, characterised in that said multi-carrier transmission system is a DMT-based ADSL system.

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